

09-05-1984

DWP—

No CCBC-153/BR-78 photographs, the Bundo-ten photographs & the "ribbon cutting" photographs are very exciting. I can't help thinking how unified and coherent the CCBC/BR group appear in the photograph -- and of course they do appear that way and they were that way for the photograph. Before and after the photograph, however, the group was about as unified as so many beads of mercury on a smooth surface. Such is the function of art, if you will, to unify and refine and distill. There were, it seems to me, about 15 people who chose not to sit to a photograph on that occasion. Is No. 13 really sticking his tongue out ^{or clenching his nose} at the camera? Is No. 3 sticking his tongue out at the camera? Curiously, TMS, who has now completely faded from the picture which is your work, appears to be fading away from the work which is this photograph. Even when this photograph was taken, she had already begun to "disappear." Virtually everyone in the photograph "looks good," some, of course, better than others. Beatrice Bartholomew appears very felicitous. Fred Oliver appears distressed. EAG is radiant, as usual, and having a wonderful time. Look at the smiles on the faces of Dorothy Oliver, Doris Howell, Bernice Dolan, for example. The identifications will be easier this year. I have already done a fair amount of identifying and will telephone my results to you. I will last night I attempted to reach you by telephone to acknowledge receipt of the photographs.

No Bundo-ten photographs are also excellent. Everyone will be pleased, I'm sure. Beatrice's camouflage costume is amusing, as are Myrtle Curtis' jaunty shoes. No smiles on the faces of EAG & VCV are truly wonderful.

No Dime Museum ribbon cutting photographs -- I like the way RGT - Joe Passes - John & you. I hate the way I look in the other photograph, although it is a good photograph, and very narrative. Actually, it's good of everyone except SRP.

I do like the photograph paper on which you have printed all these photographs: incredibly high gloss and the paper thickness is wonderful & the paper seems almost metallic and speaks of great permanence.

I will deposit all the Guinness Reunion checks -- total mail-received revenue (persons not attending the Reunion) is \$75.00, which is excellent. The fourth person on your money list of your 08-29-1984 letter is none other than HLRP. I have already answered Harold T. Loomis's letter and will answer Esther Guinness's today. Harold Loomis must be quite an extraordinary fellow. He reads the paper with an incredible thoroughness. His hypothesis about those 3 Loomis kids is exactly correct.

No Palazzo Gondolfo is painted dark green -- I painted it last night, and now it blends beautifully with its sylvan setting. Structurally it is complete, but I want to paint and "polish" a good deal on the inside before I even consider using it. I think I will put a lock on the door as well, to discourage any unauthorized person from using it.

— The note "Marriage (Bonnie Johnson & Curt Van Amburg May 5, 1984," etc... must be from Myrtle Curtis.

— The blue paper which I included in my letter to you of 09-04-84 about high school graduations from State College high school must be from Ann & Francis Henry Curtis III.

— Thank you for the Clinton 153 programs -- they Xeroxed beautifully. Did you re-type it or just cut and paste -- I can't be sure.

— The "Clintonian Monumented" reproduced beautifully. The clipping we have but only the first half of it & that is a type script. The entire clipping is very informative and settles a couple of issues that were unresolved in Clinton history. Wyman Terrell gave it to Alice. He found it in his house, I believe Alice said.

Regards, — S.R.P.